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Cross Stitch

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NOAH'S ARK ENSEMBLE
VALENTINE GIFTS
BEDDY-BYE BLESSING
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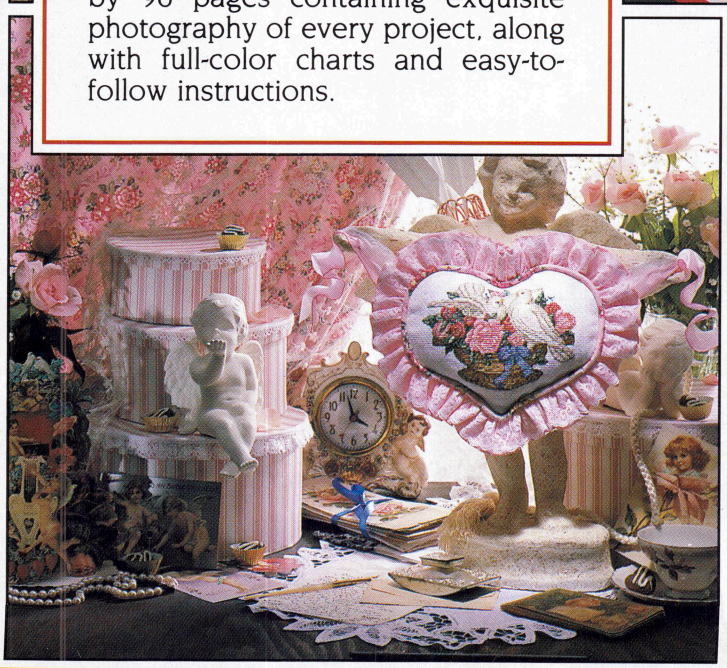

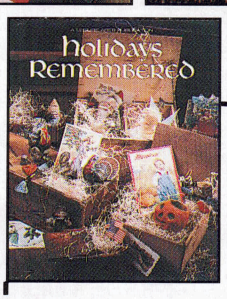

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VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5

FOR THE LOVE OF Cross Stitch

MARCH 1993

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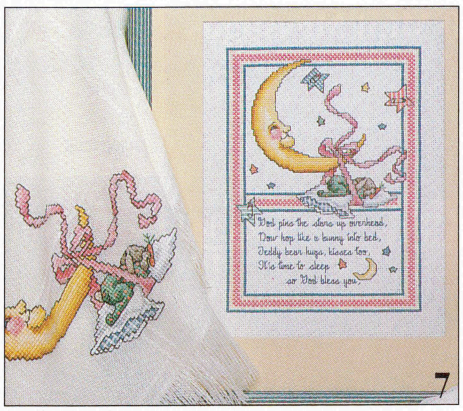

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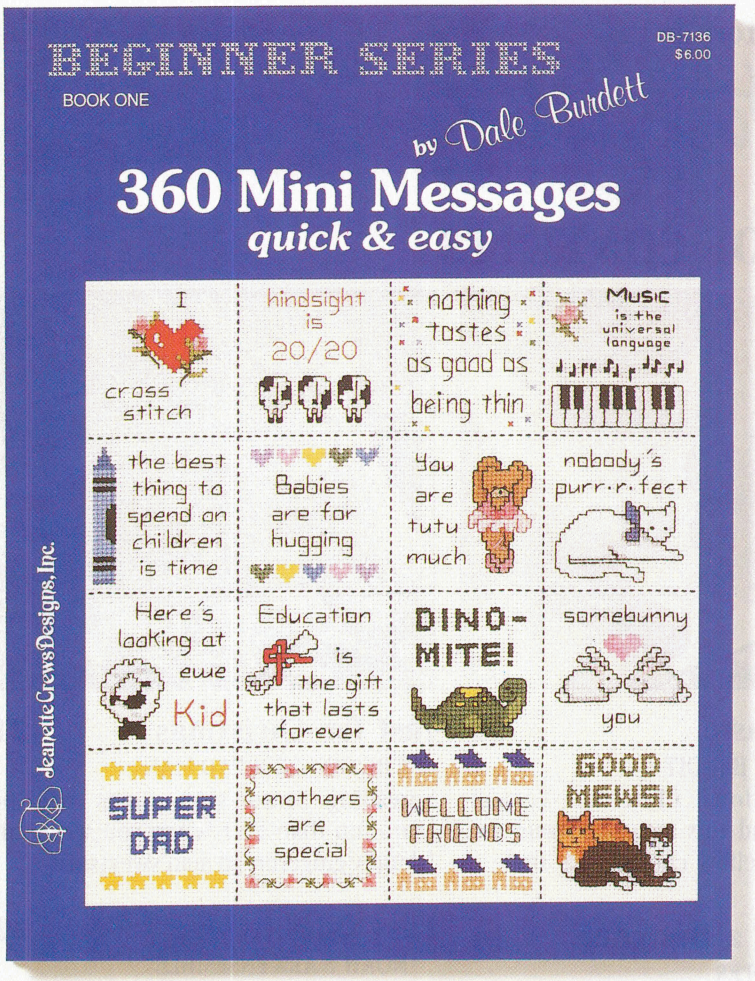

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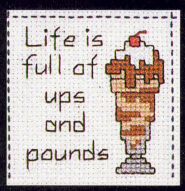

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EDITOR'S SCRAPBOOK

Dear Friends,

Over the years, we've had the pleasure of profiling many of the designers who create our wonderful cross stitch projects. I'm especially excited about the next three designers you'll meet — they all live near our office here in Little Rock and work very closely with us on a wide range of projects. Jane Chandler is our featured designer in this issue. We first became aware of Jane's exceptional talent when she worked for us as a project coordinator for *Celebrations To Cross Stitch And Craft*, our sister magazine. You can imagine how excited we were to discover this gold mine of talent right under our noses! From the beginning, Jane displayed a keen eye for detail and color. Today, she is one of our favorite needlework charters. Jane also produces a variety of original cross stitch and craft projects as well. I'm sure you'll enjoy getting to know more about this up-and-coming young designer as you read her profile beginning on page 14.

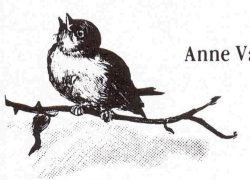
We'll continue our look at "local" designers in the next two issues, when we feature Linda Calhoun (May) and Nancy Dockter (July).

I'm really glad to see that wearable art is still such a popular craft. Like many of you, I enjoy being able to personalize my wardrobe with cross stitch accents. It's so much fun to wear creative clothing! And just wait till you see our *Noah's Ark Ensemble*. It's a stylish set that will keep you looking great, come rain or shine. I hope you like it.

Always,

Anne

Anne Van Wagner Childs, Editor



Sing out my soul, thy songs of joy;
Such as a happy bird will sing,
Beneath a rainbow's lovely arch,
In early spring.

— WILLIAM HENRY DAVIES

LETTERS

We want to hear from you, and cross stitch is our favorite subject! We'd love to know what role cross stitch plays in your life, how you got started, your most exciting project, etc. Send your letters to "Editor's Scrapbook," For The Love Of Cross Stitch, P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, Arkansas 72215.

I really enjoy your magazine. I especially love the recipes and decorative gift ideas that go along with them. I spend about one to two hours each evening stitching on round-robin projects. I began this wonderful way to share and give in 1991 and am continuing to organize these groups as well as stitching in a few myself. I'll explain how the round-robin works, and stitchers can write to me if they are interested in joining.

There are usually nine people in a group, and a leader for the group is chosen from among those nine people. Each person (called the owner) begins a project by purchasing a piece of Aida cloth — we prefer Aida because many of our stitchers are inexperienced on linen. A basting stitch is used to divide the fabric into a tic-tac-toe grid, with each square being four inches square. The owner then chooses a theme for her project and stitches something in the middle square to get the project started. Then she mails the fabric to the next person on the list, who chooses something she likes that depicts the owner's theme and stitches it into any of the remaining eight squares. Each of the nine people are doing this each month. We allow three weeks to stitch and one week to mail, finishing the round in nine months. There can be as many as nine different themes, although during the Persian Gulf War we had three people in one group doing patriotic themes. Each project is a unique work of art.

When the projects all come home, they are usually framed for all to see and are great conversation pieces. I have used portions of several of your publications to complete my squares for over 90 people. I especially like the outline Backstitching in each pattern, since this is what makes the design "jump" out at you.

I have organized over 50 groups and made many friends and lots of pen pals. Each group is unique, and when the members have completed a round, we shift them into new groups, add new people, and go at it again. I would like to invite others to join us in these round-robins. Some people only want one project. Others are doing several for a quilt. Most of us hang them in our homes or give them as gifts.

Here is my address: Laurie R. Earl, 9786 South Kristin Drive, Sandy, Utah 84070-3357. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope for my reply. This is a volunteer effort. I would love to write new pen pals as well.

Laurie R. Earl, Sandy, Utah

My 1992 New Year's resolution was to learn how to cross stitch. I am a very dedicated quilter who has been intrigued with the variety of cross stitch quilt patterns appearing in magazines, and I just knew there would be a way to incorporate them into my projects. Now the problem is that I find it hard to do both at the same time!

I enjoy your top-notch magazine over others for a variety of reasons. Color photos, color graphs, and instructions help the stitcher achieve wonderful results. Your variety of topics, recipes, and decorating suggestions typify your high standards of publication. It is truly a great magazine. I thank my sister, Catherine, and my friend, Dora, for their inspiration and guidance in my newfound craft.

The January 1992 issue shows a *Happy Holidays Basket* hanging on a door knob with a jar of jelly in it. The basket is a great idea, not just for jams, but also for cross-stitched hand towels, stuffed toys, and possibly flowers. The possibilities are endless.

Deborah Beirnes, Elmira, Ontario, Canada

Just as I seem to be drowning in a sea of junk mail, along comes your next issue and I feel like I've washed ashore on an island paradise. I eagerly begin selecting projects, although like seashells I know I'll pick too many.

When the September 1990 issue arrived with its charming array of Amish folks on the cover, I knew it was a "seashell" that I had to have, because we have a number of Amish families here in Central Pennsylvania. It took awhile before I got to the project — too many projects and too little time — but here it is, spread across an apron, which I occasionally wear when helping at church suppers.

Nancy Jarrett, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania

How clever of Nancy Jarrett to think of embellishing an apron with this sweet design from our September 1990 issue. We're sure her creativity has received many compliments — she certainly gets ours!

SWEETHEART MUG

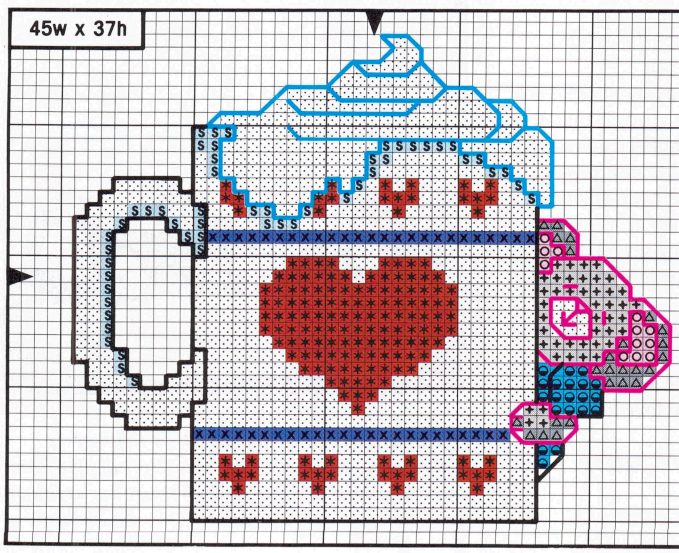
Perfect for someone who's the cream in your coffee, this quick-to-stitch mug makes a delightful Valentine's Day gift. For added sweetness, fill it with candy and present your token of love with a kiss.

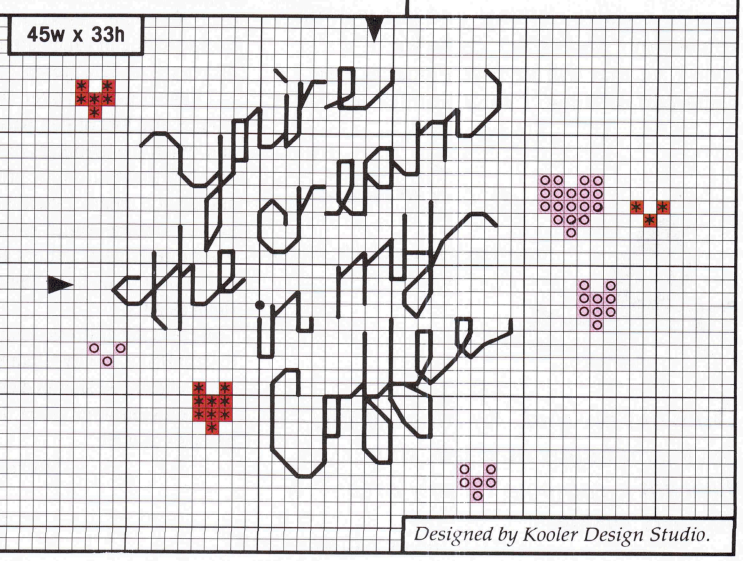
The designs were stitched on a 10¼" x 3½" piece of Vinyl-Weave® (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch, 2 for Backstitched letters and French Knot and 1 for all other Backstitch. It was inserted in a Stitch-A-Mug™. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

For design placement, fold Vinyl-Weave® in half matching short edges. Center mouse design on left half of vinyl; center words on right half of vinyl. Place Vinyl-Weave® in mug with short ends of vinyl aligned with handle.

Hand wash mug to protect stitchery.

X	DMC	B'ST	COLOR
	blanc		white
	312		blue
	317		dk grey
	318		grey
	321		red
	413		vy dk grey
	762		lt grey
	775		lt blue
	894		pink
	996		turquoise
	312		blue French Knot





Designed by Kooler Design Studio.

BEDDY-BYE BLESSING

Send your little one off to dreamland with the sweet words of this bedtime blessing. A snuggly afghan stitched with a motif from the design completes the precious set, which is sure to please mother and baby alike.

BEDDY-BYE BLESSING (92w x 128h)

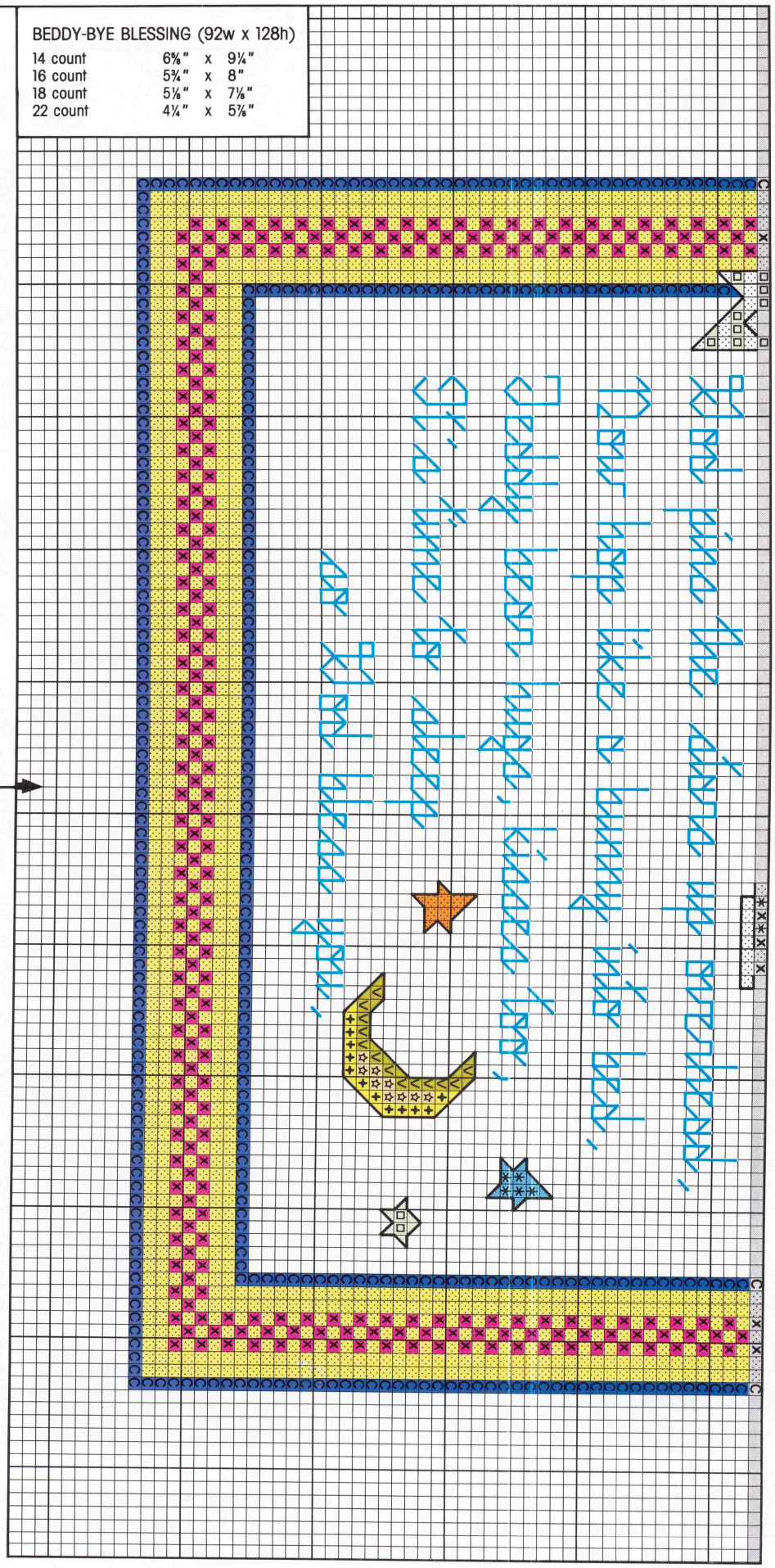
14 count	6⅝"	x 9¼"
16 count	5¾"	x 8"
18 count	5⅛"	x 7⅛"
22 count	4¼"	x 5⅞"

BEDDY-BYE BLESSING (92w x 128h)

X	DMC	¼X	½X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
	blanc				1001	white
	ecru				1002	ecru
	335				3283	vy dk pink
	413				8514	dk grey
S	562				6213	dk green
S	563				6210	green
□	564				6209	lt green
*	725				2298	gold
C	726				2295	lt gold
V	727				2289	dk yellow
+	745				2296	yellow
☆	746				2275	lt yellow
X	762				8510	grey
*	776				3281	lt pink
S	783				5307	dk gold

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
C	807			7168	blue
I	818			3281	vy lt pink
O	828			7053	vy lt blue
X	899			3282	dk pink
	911			6205	vy dk green
2	3032			5393	dk beige
+	3033			5388	lt beige
△	3326			3126	pink
▽	3340				orange
	3341				lt orange
◇	3765				dk blue
*	3766				lt blue
	3782				beige

Grey area indicates last row of top section of design.


Baby, you're the apple of my eye,
Your hair looks like a bunny's tail.
Cuddly ears, fuzzy, kissable lips,
Oh, it's time for sleep.
Baby, I'll tuck you in,

Framed Piece (shown on page 7): **Beddy-Bye Blessing** was stitched on a 15" x 17" piece of Antique White Aida (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Half Cross Stitch and Backstitch. It was custom framed.

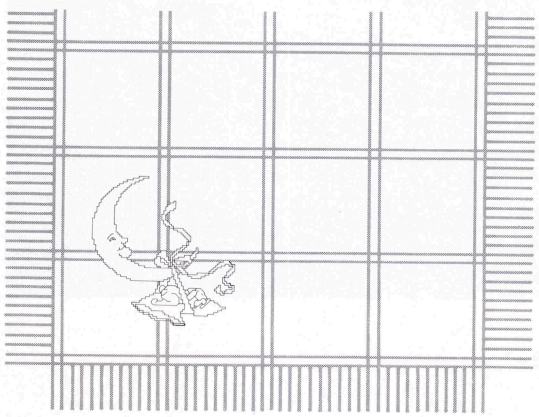
Afghan (shown on page 7): **Moon, Ribbon, Pillow, and Bunny only** were stitched on a 29" x 45" piece (baby afghan size) of Soft White Anne Cloth (18 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Six strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch. Fill in ribbon as desired where border was omitted.

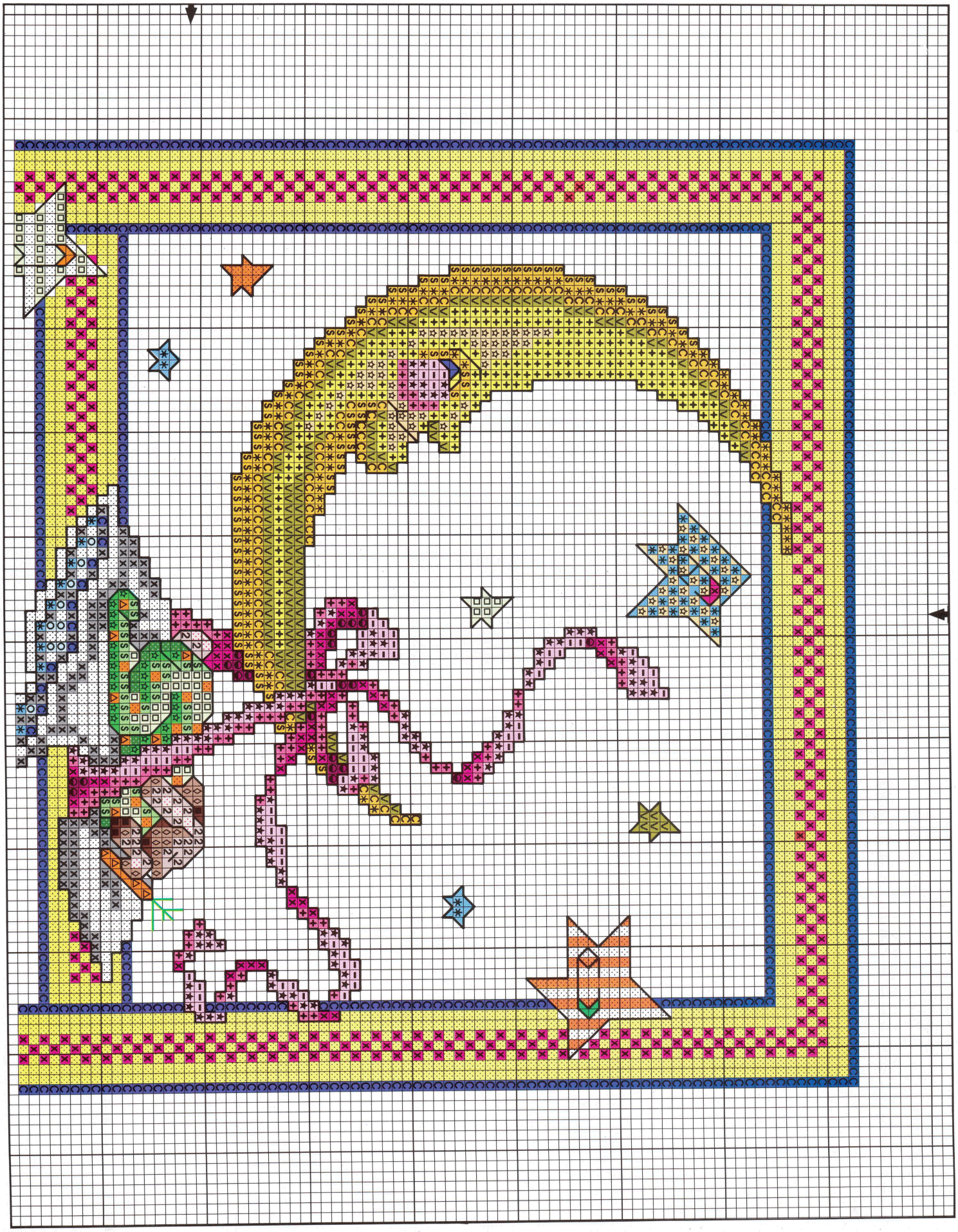
For fringe, cut off selvage of fabric. Machine stitch along woven stripe around outside edge of afghan. Fringe fabric to machine-stitched lines. Refer to Diagram to place design on fabric.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Design and poem by Carol Emmer.

Diagram





SPRING FAIRY

Shown here and on the front cover, these winged companions remind us that spring is a wonderful time to let friendships blossom.

On the cover: Spring Fairy was stitched on a 16" x 18" piece of Pewter Lugana (25 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots. It was custom framed.

On this page: Spring Fairy was stitched on a 14" x 16" piece of Cream Belfast Linen (32 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots. It was custom framed.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Carol Bryan for Fraser and Co.
Needlework adaptation by Nancy Dockter.

SPRING FAIRY (89w x 120h)			
14 count	6⅜"	x	8⅝"
16 count	5⅝"	x	7½"
18 count	5"	x	6¾"
22 count	4⅛"	x	5½"

SPRING FAIRY (89w x 120h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	COLOR
○	ecru			ecru
	310		*	black
2	353			peach
	407		†	dk flesh
✱	420			golden brown
⊙	422			vy lt golden brown
▩	433			brown
⊠	434			lt brown
□	435		★	vy lt brown
◊	436			dk tan
▩	437			tan
−	471			lt green
▩	472			vy lt green
☆	543			beige
▩	676			gold
✱	677			lt gold
V	712			lt beige
▲	725			dk yellow
C	725 & 783		▲	
★	729			dk gold
▲	738			lt tan
▩	739			vy lt tan
⊙	744			yellow
▩	745			lt yellow
+	745 & 746		▲	
■	760			salmon
♦	781		★	vy dk yellow
	801		†	dk brown
⊠	819			vy lt pink
⊙	842 & 3743		▲	
▩	869		♦	dk golden brown
♦	930			dk blue
⊙	931			blue
⊠	932			lt blue
◊	945			lt flesh
▩	950			flesh
▩	951			vy lt flesh
★	961		♦	vy dk pink
V	962			dk pink
−	963			lt pink
■	3031		★	vy dk golden brown
△	3042			violet
+	3045			lt golden brown
C	3326			pink
	3345		*	vy dk green
▬	3346			dk green
C	3347			green
◆	3371			vy dk brown
	3712		♦	dk salmon
+	3743			lt violet
	3750		★	vy dk blue
S	3770			lt peach
	3772		†	vy dk flesh
△	3773 & 758		▲	
	3778		*	dk peach
●	ecru			ecru French Knot
●	783			dk yellow French Knot

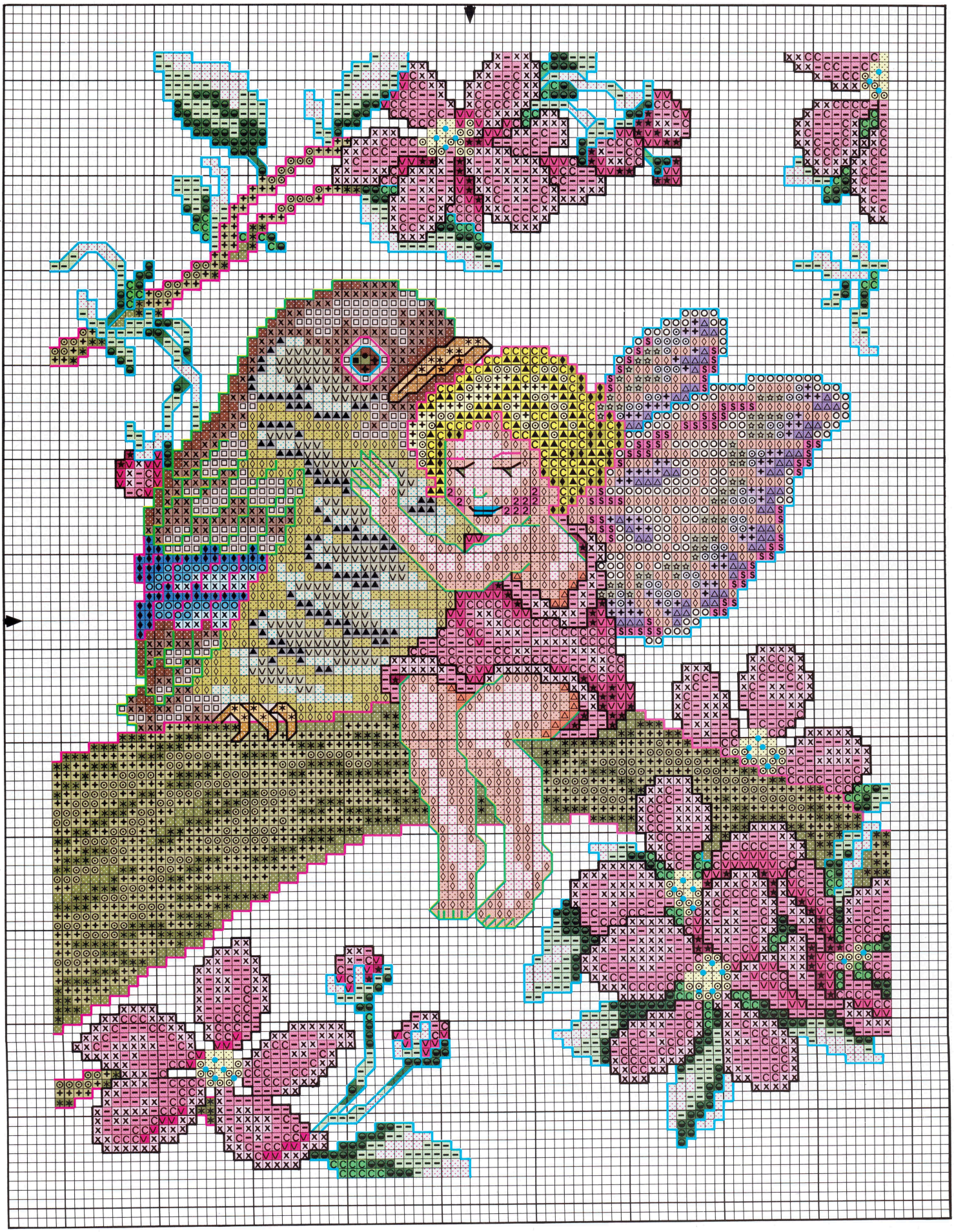
* Use black for bird's eye. Dk peach for fairy's wing. Vy dk green for all other.

† Use dk flesh for nose. Dk brown for bird. Vy dk flesh for all other.

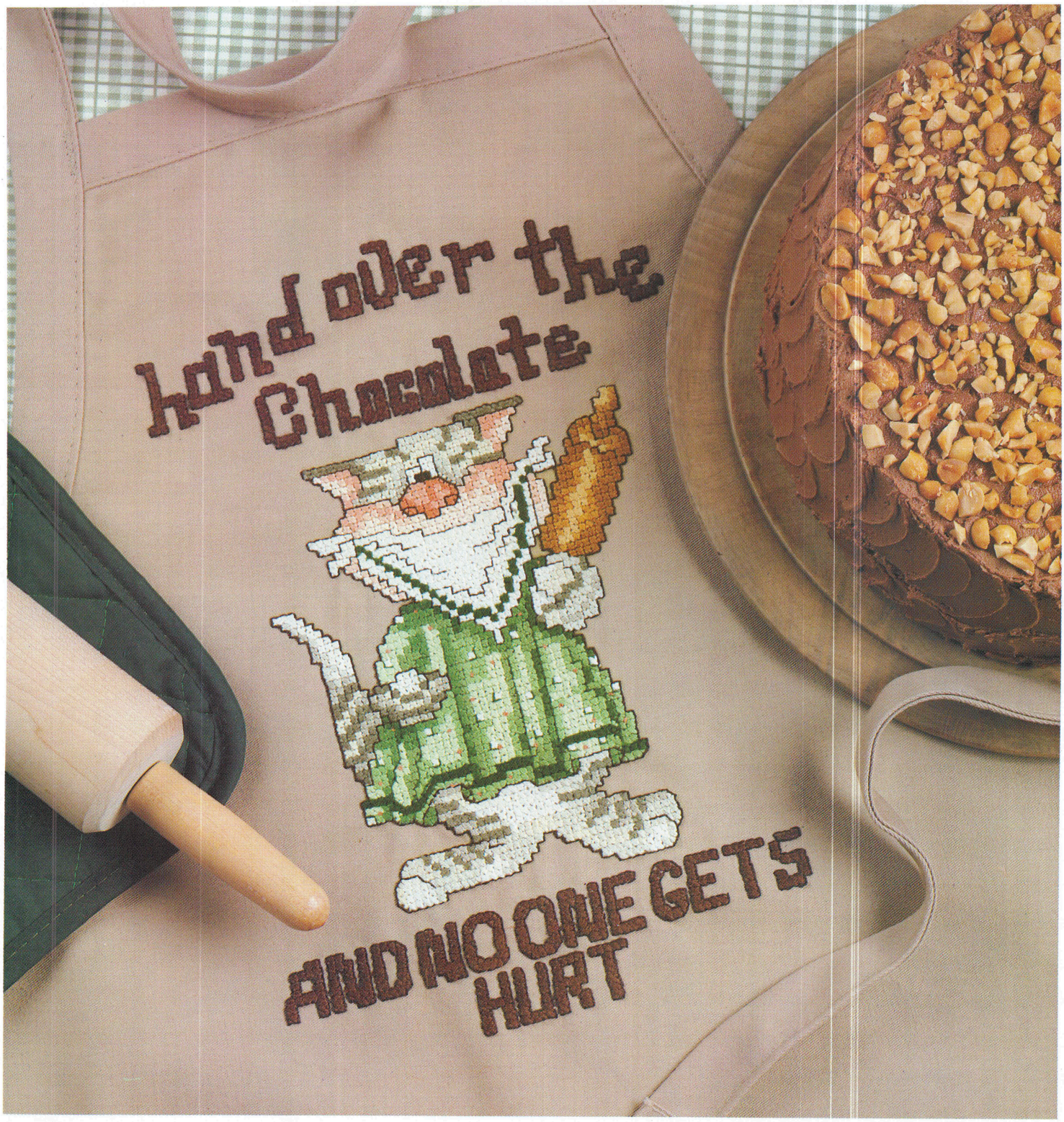
★ Use vy lt brown for fairy's eyebrows and bird's eye. Vy dk yellow for hair. Vy dk blue for bird's wing. Vy dk golden brown for all other.

▲ For Lugana, use 2 strands of first floss color listed and 1 strand of second floss color listed. For Linen, use 1 strand of each color.

♦ Use vy dk pink for dress and flowers. Dk salmon for mouth. Dk golden brown for all other.



CHOCOLATE BANDIT



Stitched on an apron, this comical kitty conveys a compelling message that's sure to elicit understanding chuckles from fellow chocoholics. Your family and friends will appreciate the sentiment even more after a slice of this scrumptious Chocolate-Peanut Butter Cake!

CHOCOLATE-PEANUT BUTTER CAKE

CAKE

- 1 package (18¼ ounces) devil's food cake mix
- 1 box (3.9 ounces) chocolate fudge instant pudding and pie filling
- 3 eggs
- 1¼ cups water
- ½ cup smooth peanut butter
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 1½ cups (about 9 ounces) semisweet chocolate chips

FROSTING

- ½ cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup smooth peanut butter
- ¾ cup whipping cream
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract
- 4 cups sifted confectioners sugar
- 6 tablespoons sifted cocoa
- ¾ cup chopped peanuts, divided

For cake, preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a large bowl, combine cake mix, pudding mix, eggs, water, peanut butter, and oil. Using low speed of an electric mixer, beat until moistened. Increase speed of mixer to medium and beat 2 minutes longer. Stir in chocolate chips. Pour batter into 2 greased and floured 9-inch round cake pans. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until cake begins to pull away from sides of pan and springs back when lightly pressed. Cool in pans 10 minutes; invert onto a wire rack to cool completely.

For frosting, beat butter and peanut butter until smooth. Beat in cream and vanilla. Gradually add sugar and cocoa, beating until well blended. Spread about ½ cup frosting over 1 layer of cake. Sprinkle about ¼ cup peanuts over frosting. Place remaining cake layer over peanuts. Frost sides and top of cake with remaining frosting. Sprinkle remaining peanuts over top of cake. Store in an airtight container.
Yield: about 20 servings

Chocolate Bandit was stitched over a 14" x 15" piece of 8.5 mesh waste canvas on a purchased apron. Six strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch and French Knots. See Working on Waste Canvas, page 29. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by DeLane Lange.
Needlework adaptation by Kathy Werkmeister and Kathy Elrod.

CHOCOLATE BANDIT (69w x 102h)

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
⁘	blanc	◱		1001	white
★	319	◢		6246	vy dk green
⁘	320	◢		6017	green
2	356	◢		2338	dk peach
⁘	367	◢		6018	dk green
V	368	◢		6016	lt green
-	369	◱		6015	vy lt green
✕	434	◢		5000	dk tan
C	435			5371	tan
*	437			5942	lt tan
◆	645			8500	dk grey
◎	648	◢		8390	grey
○	754	◢		2331	lt peach
☆	758	◱		3868	peach
▣	822	◢		5830	beige
◍	890	◢	/	6021	emerald green
◇	898	◢		5476	brown
△	948	◱		2331	vy lt peach
+	3072	◱		6005	lt grey
⁘	3371		/	5478	dk brown
•	356	dk peach French Knot			

JANE CHANDLER

A former project coordinator at Leisure Arts, Jane Chandler stays busy charting and designing needlework at home.

When Jane Chandler made the decision to stay at home with her newborn son two years ago, little did she know that she was embarking on a stay-at-home designing career, too. A former project coordinator for our sister magazine, *Celebrations To Cross Stitch And Craft*, Jane was delighted when Leisure Arts asked her to continue converting designs to cross stitch from her home in Roland, Arkansas, a rural community near Little Rock. "I loved to work, so being at home was a big adjustment," Jane says. "The charting helped me keep my sanity and also helped out financially. I feel very blessed to have been given the opportunity to have the special bonus of having my own designs published."

Jane began putting her creative skills to work as early as elementary school, where classmates often asked her to draw on the covers of their notebooks. "I think I've been designing in the full sense of the word for as long as I can remember — adapting clothes patterns to better fit my taste or coming up with ideas for unique gifts for family and friends," Jane says.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where her studies included pottery, sculpture, photography, painting, illustration, and her major emphasis, graphic arts. "It always amazed me how each person could receive the same assignment but produce vastly different techniques and outcomes," she says. One class project that Jane

vividly recalls was an assignment to design a three-dimensional sculpture that could be formed in any medium but had to consist of many parts and be combined into one piece without being joined permanently. "After much thought, I had the brilliant idea of filling huge oblong balloons with plaster and bending, entwining, and stacking them into a mound," Jane says. "Little did I know the balloons would burst as the plaster thickened and expanded during the drying process! I don't think my parents thought their garage would ever be the same!"

A lot of years have passed since then; now Jane is happy to be charting and designing for cross stitch. "I think I've experimented in almost every artsy craft and needlework known to man," claims Jane, who says she has finally found her niche in the creative field. "My experiences from working at Leisure Arts taught me what works and what doesn't." Though much of her day is spent playing with and tending to her son, Blake, Jane manages to find 20 to 40 hours a week for her charting and designing — usually during Blake's nap times and in the evenings after he's tucked in bed. She also makes time to keep the company books for her husband, Craig, who runs his own floor covering installation business.

She does most of her work in her home studio, where all of her craft supplies and fabrics are stored. "My mind is constantly creating," Jane says. "I have little notes and sketches

These pretty towels were inspired by Jane's love of French Country and Victorian style fabrics.

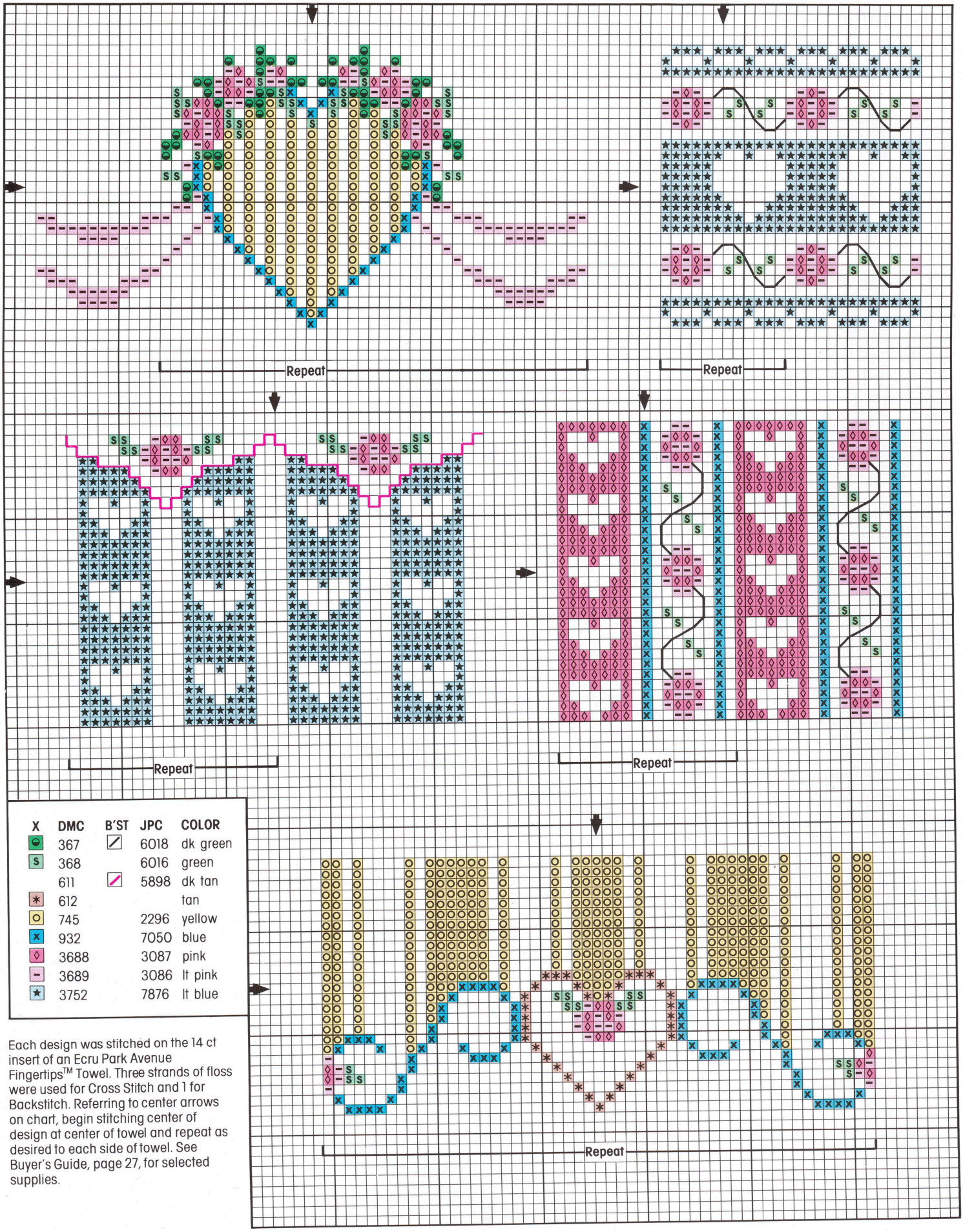
Jane shows off her two "babies" — Blake, her two-year old son, and Spanky, their Eskimo spitz. Although Spanky arrived on the scene first, Jane says the two are "big buddies."

stuck all over the house with ideas for designs." The ones for the towels featured on page 15, along with similar ones that have been published in *Tender Touches for Fingertips, Books One* and *Two*, were inspired by her love of French Country and Victorian style fabrics. (For these towel leaflets and more designs by Jane, see the Buyer's Guide on page 27.) "The towel designs came about when I couldn't find designs for guest towels to match my bathroom decor. I love to decorate!" Jane says. "I couldn't find any designs to blend with the floral heart print wallpaper and the feeling that the claw-foot tub, antique vanity, and wood ceiling and trims provided; so I designed my own and later submitted them." Jane likes to think that the towels have a feminine, soft, romantic touch in addition to their Victorian charm that will make stitchers want to pamper themselves.

Many of the designs that Jane creates reflect her favorite things — flowers, antiques, quilts, and teddy bears. She considers shading a priority in designs with a more "solid" look. "I want the shading to be realistic so the item comes to life. And of course, color coordination is of great importance to me on any design," she adds. Recently, Jane created some teddy bear designs with Bible verses that she hopes will cause stitchers to pause and reflect on their lives. "God gives us our talents, and I would like to think I have used mine to try to glorify Him in some way," she says.

Though Jane usually submits her work in chart form, she occasionally does watercolors — a medium she's especially fond of — as an excuse to "play." One of her long-range goals is to submit watercolor designs to greeting card and stationery companies. "I'm hoping to have more time to concentrate on designing," she adds. "It's very frustrating to have plenty of ideas and no time to carry them out. Most of the cross stitch designing I have done has been small designs. I have some ideas for larger, more detailed designs but tend to stick to the smaller ones due to the time involved."

When the native Arkansan is not burning the midnight oil, she likes to spend time with family and friends. "Antiquing is my favorite recreation, especially when traveling and running across a neat little shop by accident," Jane says. "My husband has finally been trained to stop," she jokes. And like most mothers, Jane cherishes the special moments she gets to share with Blake. "He loves to go outside, so I do get to do some flower-gardening and yard work. He is a big help," laughs Jane. "I plant it, he pulls it up! I certainly have my hands full, but he is just wonderful!"



X	DMC	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
⊖	367	⁄	6018	dk green
S	368		6016	green
	611	⁄	5898	dk tan
*	612			tan
O	745		2296	yellow
X	932		7050	blue
◊	3688		3087	pink
-	3689		3086	lt pink
★	3752		7876	lt blue

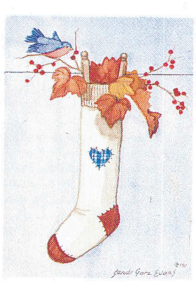
Each design was stitched on the 14 ct insert of an Ecru Park Avenue Fingertips™ Towel. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch. Referring to center arrows on chart, begin stitching center of design at center of towel and repeat as desired to each side of towel. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

SEASONS OF HAPPINESS

As a sentinel of the changing seasons, our little bluebird welcomes the luscious fruits and floral beauty that thrive in the warm spring and summer months. These delightful projects begin our new series of designs presenting images of each season.

Each time in "Collections," we bring you part of a series of coordinating designs. In this issue, we begin *Seasons of Happiness,* a two-part series by Sandi Gore Evans.

Spring and *Summer*
In This Issue



Autumn and *Winter*
In the May Issue

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
O	blanc			1001	white
O	ecru			1002	ecru
	311			7980	dk blue
	322			7978	blue
	326			3401	lt red
+	335			3283	pink
S	353			3006	peach
	356			2338	dk peach
	414			8513	dk grey
	434			5000	dk tan
	436			5943	tan
	437			5942	lt tan
	498			3410	red
	642			5832	dk beige
	644			5831	beige
	725			2298	lt gold
V	754			2331	lt peach
	762			8510	grey
	782			5308	dk gold
C	783			5307	gold
	822			5830	lt beige
	890			6021	vy dk green
	3021			5395	brown
	3345			6258	dk green
	3346			6258	green
	3347			6266	lt green
	3348			6266	vy lt green
2	3755				lt blue
•	blanc				white French Knot
•	310				black French Knot
•	311				dk blue French Knot

SPRING (72w x 81h)
SUMMER (72w x 81h)

14 count	5¼"	x	5⅞"
16 count	4½"	x	5⅛"
18 count	4"	x	4½"
22 count	3⅜"	x	3¾"

Each design was stitched on an 8" x 10" piece of Light Blue Aida (14 ct). Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots. Extend clothesline as needed to reach edges of frame. They were inserted in purchased frames (6" x 8" opening). See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Sandi Gore Evans. Needlework adaptation by Kathy Werkmeister.

ROYAL LACE GUEST TOWEL

Pamper your guests with this new Royal Lace Velour Guest Towel by Cannon® stitched with our cordial design. Part of the Crafter's Pride® line from Daniel Enterprises of Laurinburg, North Carolina, the 11″ wide by 18″ high towel has an attached panel of 14 count Aida and lace, with a 10¼″ wide by 2½″ high stitching area. It comes in Victorian blue, light blue, white, vanilla, peach, mint, rose, forest green, red, and black.

WELCOME COTTAGE (64w x 24h)

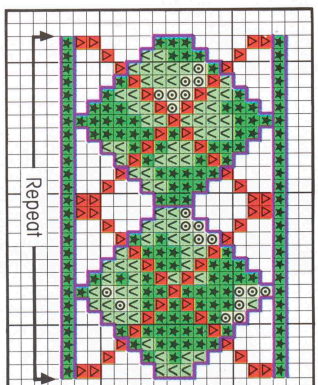
X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
⋰	blanc			1001	white
▲	501			6878	dk green
X	502			6876	green
☆	503			6879	lt green
○	726			2295	yellow
△	818			3281	lt pink
★	840			5379	brown
◒	841	◪		5376	lt brown
	844		◪	8501	grey
✱	931	◪		7051	blue
S	3350			3004	vy dk pink
+	3731				dk pink
C	3733				pink
−	3752			7876	lt blue
●	844	grey French Knot			

Welcome Cottage was stitched on the Ivory Aida (14 ct) panel of a Victorian Blue Royal Lace Guest Towel. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Diane Brakefield.

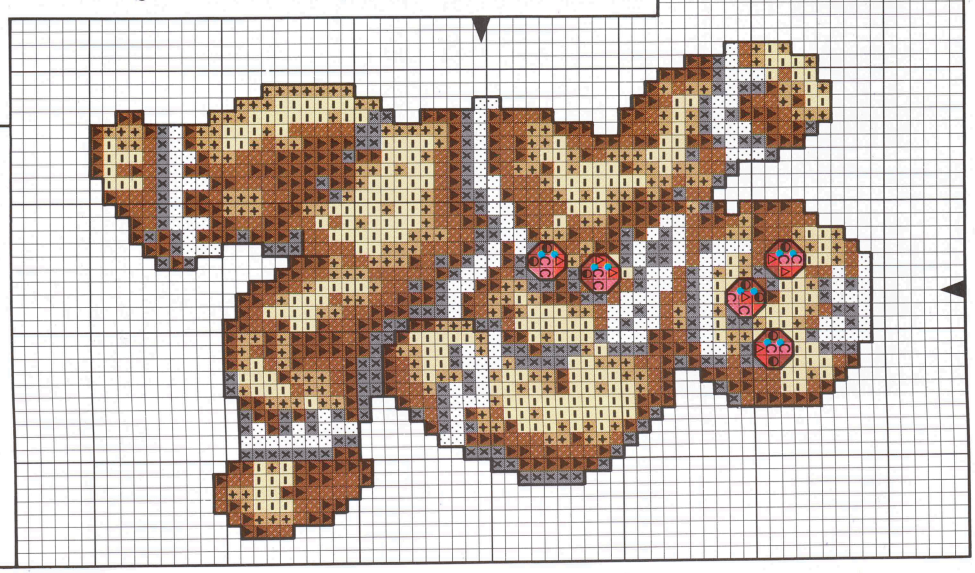
THE GINGERBREAD MAN

Stitch, stitch as fast as you can, 'cause you'll want to wear this gingerbread man. With a wave of his hand and a friendly smile, he'll convey your warmest season's greetings to everyone you see.



The designs were stitched over 8.5 mesh waste canvas on a purchased sweatshirt. Six strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch and French Knots. Place Gingerbread Man on sweatshirt with top of design 1¼" from bottom of neckband. Place border design 1 square below Gingerbread Man, repeating as desired to each side of sweatshirt. Place border design on each sleeve 1" above cuff, repeating around sleeve. See Working on Waste Canvas, page 29. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Sandi Gore Evans.
Needlework adaptation by Kathy Werkmeister.



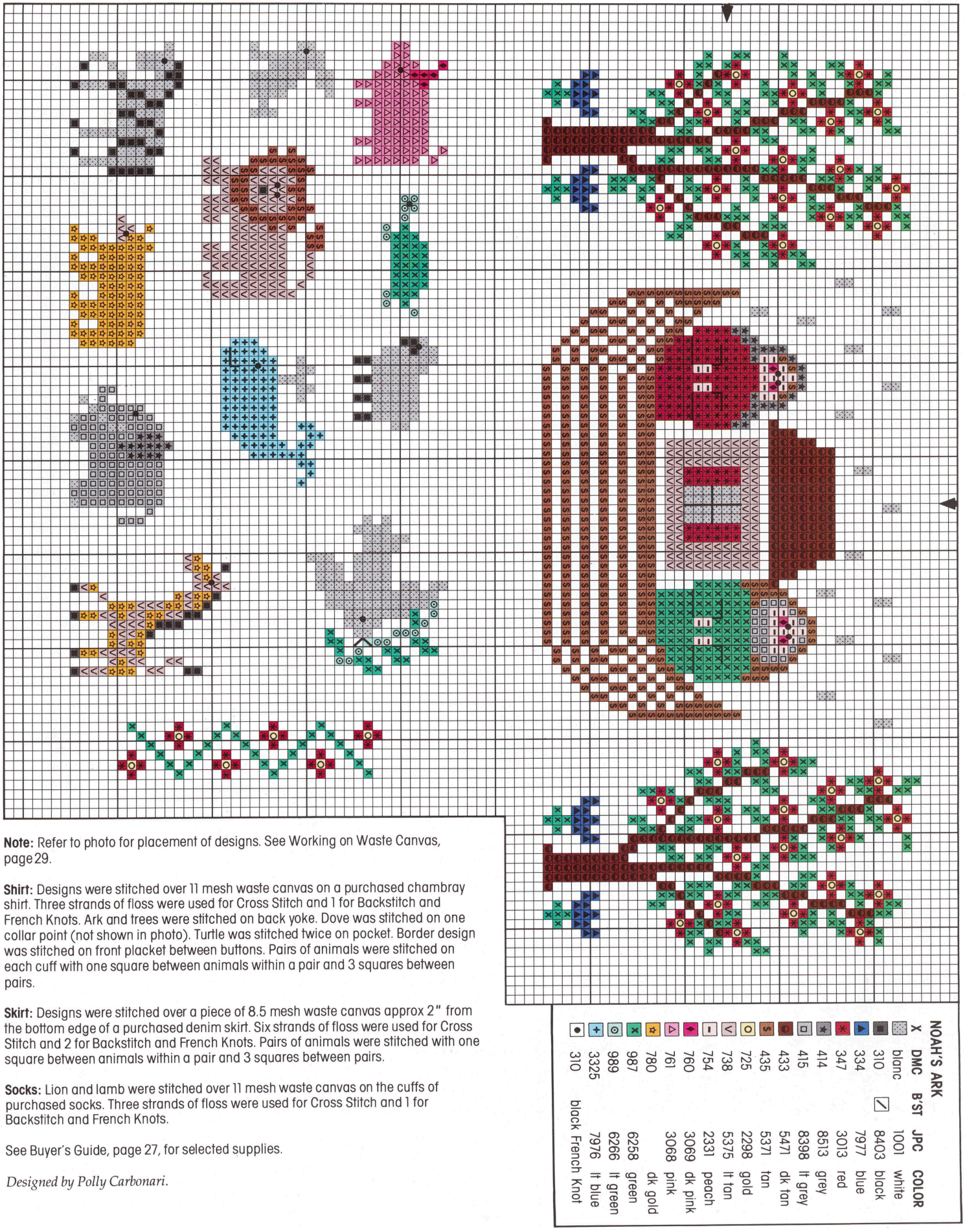
GINGERBREAD MAN

X	DMC	¼X	B'ST	JPC	COLOR
⬚	blanc			1001	white
△	304			3401	red
⊿	319			6246	dk green
⊙	320			6017	lt green
C	347			3013	lt red
V	367			6018	green
×	433			5471	vy dk brown
▶	434			5000	dk brown
+	435			5371	brown
I	436			5943	lt brown
◐	437			5942	vy lt brown
⊿	816			3410	dk red
⊙	3371			5478	brown black
•	blanc				white French Knot

NOAH'S ARK ENSEMBLE

Photography location courtesy of the Little Rock Zoological Garden.

Your fashion forecast will call for clear skies when you sail into spring wearing these casual coordinates! Embellished from top to toe with Noah's Ark designs, the set will keep you looking stylish, come rain or shine.



Note: Refer to photo for placement of designs. See Working on Waste Canvas, page 29.

Shirt: Designs were stitched over 11 mesh waste canvas on a purchased chambray shirt. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots. Ark and trees were stitched on back yoke. Dove was stitched on one collar point (not shown in photo). Turtle was stitched twice on pocket. Border design was stitched on front placket between buttons. Pairs of animals were stitched on each cuff with one square between animals within a pair and 3 squares between pairs.

Skirt: Designs were stitched over a piece of 8.5 mesh waste canvas approx 2" from the bottom edge of a purchased denim skirt. Six strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 2 for Backstitch and French Knots. Pairs of animals were stitched with one square between animals within a pair and 3 squares between pairs.

Socks: Lion and lamb were stitched over 11 mesh waste canvas on the cuffs of purchased socks. Three strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knots.

See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

Designed by Polly Carbonari.

ROMANTIC REMEMBRANCE

Bordered with forget-me-nots, this familiar verse speaks eloquently of the bonds of friendship. Fashioned into an accent pillow, it makes a lovely remembrance on Valentine's Day.

Designed by Diane Brakefield.

To Know Thee was stitched on a 9" x 8" piece of Antique White Belfast Linen (32 ct). The design was stitched over 2 fabric threads. Two strands of floss were used for Cross Stitch and 1 for Backstitch and French Knot. It was made into a pillow. See Pillow Finishing, page 29. See Buyer's Guide, page 27, for selected supplies.

TO KNOW THEE (77w x 61h)			
14 count	5½"	x	4⅜"
16 count	4⅞"	x	3⅞"
18 count	4⅜"	x	3½"
22 count	3½"	x	2⅞"

TO KNOW THEE (77w x 61h)

X	DMC	B'ST	COLOR
S	334		dk blue
@	452		grey
C	453		lt grey
	500	/	vy dk green
X	501		dk green
⊙	502		green
*	504		lt green
☆	742		gold
-	775		lt blue
	930	/	vy dk blue
△	3051		olive green
+	3325		blue
•	930		vy dk blue French Knot

DESIGN CONTEST

PLANT POKES

ONE FIRST PRIZE: $100
TWO SECOND PRIZES: $75 EACH
THREE THIRD PRIZES: $50 EACH
Plus, each winner will receive
two 11″ pillow squares of Anne Cloth!

Blooming plants and lush greenery are room brighteners that give your home a warm and welcoming feeling. And when you add handcrafted plant pokes to the arrangements, they become extensions of your personal decorating style.

Because plant pokes lend themselves so well to small, simple motifs, you'll find that developing your own design is easy and fun. Even if you've never designed before, give this contest a try and watch your creativity blossom. Your original design may win you a cash prize or a place in a future Leisure Arts publication!

Rules: Anyone may enter. Simply design and cross stitch your plant poke and finish it any way you please (stuffed, fringed, stiffened, etc.). It is not necessary to mount it on a dowel — we'll add dowels for the winning photograph. YOUR DESIGN MUST BE ORIGINAL; NO PART OF IT MAY HAVE BEEN PUBLISHED PREVIOUSLY. (Converting a published image such as a product logo, film character, etc., to cross stitch does not make it your original design and may infringe on someone's copyright or trademark.) Each entry will be judged by the editors on its originality and appeal. The decision of the judges is final. You may enter as many times as you wish. We'll keep the winning entries, but others will be returned if you include a self-addressed stamped envelope with adequate postage. Winners must sign an agreement declaring that the design is his or her original creation and that Leisure Arts may use it at any time in any form without further payment.

Deadline: Entries must **reach us** by May 11, 1993. Please allow adequate delivery time. Winners will be announced in the November 1993 issue.

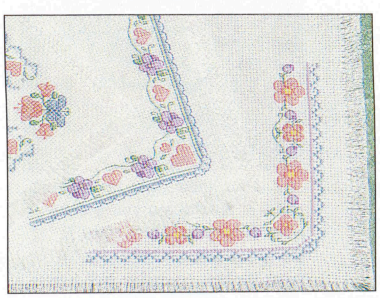
To Enter: Send your entry to us with a chart of the design, a list of the materials used (including brand and color number of embroidery floss), and instructions (if necessary) for making your project. Include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. Mail to *For The Love Of Cross Stitch*, Plant Poke Design Contest, P. O. Box 5595, Little Rock, Arkansas 72215, or deliver to 5701 Ranch Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas 72212.

Note: The designs shown are from Leisure Arts Leaflet #988, *The Herb Garden.*

In Our Next Issue

- Topped with a simple phrase, a jar of our delicious fruit spread makes a wonderful friendship gift.
- Fall and winter designs conclude our *Seasons of Happiness* series, which features a bluebird perched on a clothesline.
- Adorable Stitch-A-Sippers offer a new way to shower a baby with love.
- Two cute little mice enjoy some holiday fun on a sweatshirt.

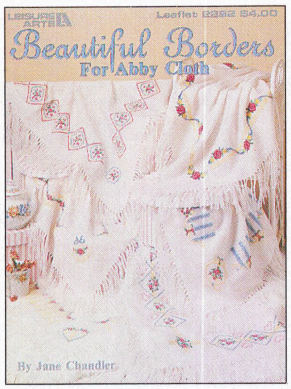
- Featured designer Linda Calhoun shares a touching Mother's Day sampler.
- A trio of flowery bread covers welcomes spring to your table.
- Our floral alphabet will let you pick from a garden of project possibilities.
- We have a witty prayer for stitchers and a matching pincushion.
- Romance thrives in a framed piece and on an Anne Cloth afghan stitched with roses.



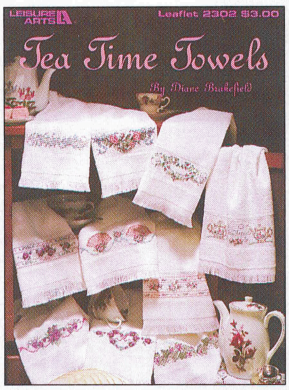
From the Bookshelf

SUSAN WILES

Springtime is spruce-up time, and the newest Leisure Arts books have some wonderful designs to brighten your life. We have soft and pretty afghans and towels, plus lots of cheery flowers to adorn home accessories, clothing, and mugs. (There also are some quick-and-easy bread cloths and mugs to enjoy while you're still in the grasp of winter.) Carol Emmer's creativity shines in a giant new book of alphabets, and the sweetness of our baby designs is sure to make you smile. More flowers can be found in a book that's not shown here: ***Beautiful Bookmarks*** (#2282, $3.00), featuring eight feminine designs by Ann Townsend. Ask for these books and more at your local needlecraft shop or see the Buyer's Guide that begins on page 27.

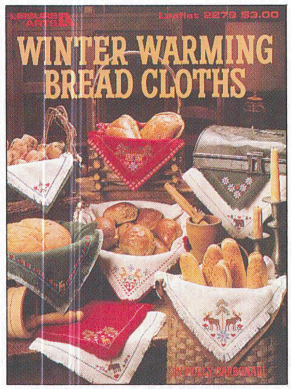


Shown in 2 color schemes, the 6 afghan designs in ***Beautiful Borders for Abby Cloth*** (#2292, $4.00) were created by our featured designer, Jane Chandler.

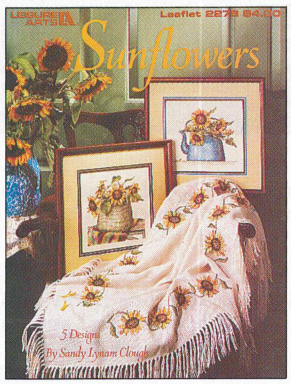


Welcome spring to your home with the 10 projects in ***Tea Time Towels*** (#2302, $3.00). Featuring hearts and flowers, they're very soft and pretty.

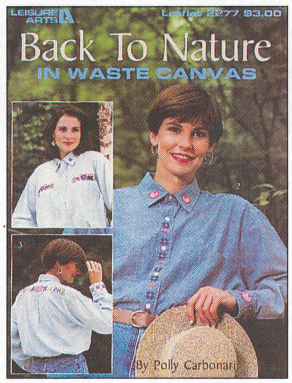
Sweetened with Love (#2286, $3.00) has 9 thoughtful messages to start your day with a smile. These Stitch-A-Mug™ projects offer a gardenful of floral beauty.



Winter Warming Bread Cloths (#2279, $3.00) has 9 quick-and-easy designs. ***Winter Mugs*** (#2296, $3.00) offers 9 kindred designs for Stitch-A-Mugs™.

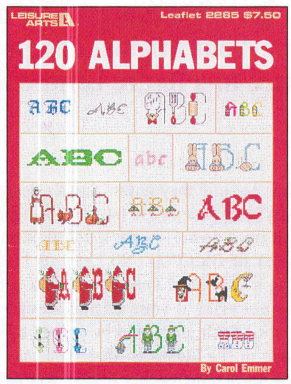


Let the vibrant beauty found in ***Sunflowers*** (#2278, $4.00) fill your home with color. The 5 cheery designs accent afghans, pillows, and a lovely cardigan.

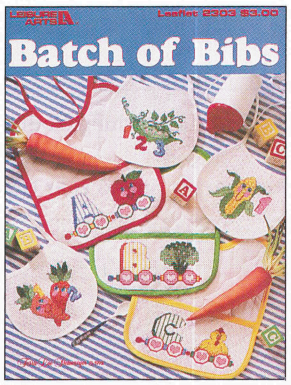


Get ***Back to Nature*** (#2277, $3.00) and discover clever motifs to dress up chambray shirts. The 19 border designs include flowers and friends from the forest.

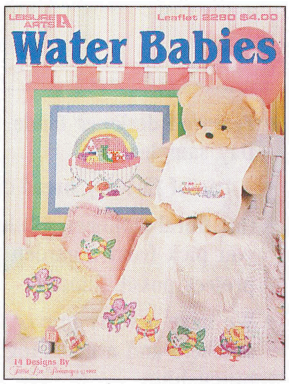
Give your shirts and blouses an extra-feminine look with the 21 designs in ***Floral Touches*** (#2295, $3.00). These simple motifs make it easy!



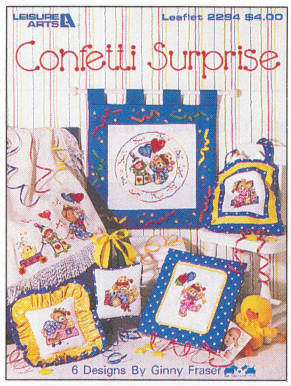
120 Alphabets (#2285, $7.50) offers a potpourri of imaginative letters for every possible occasion. There's also helpful advice on using these creative alphabets.



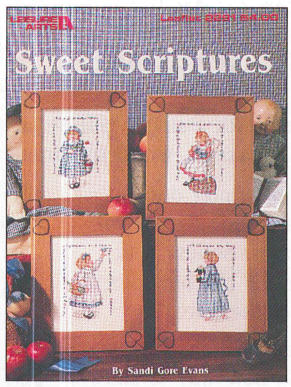
A is for apple, B is for balloons, and F is for the fun you'll have with the 6 precious designs in ***Batch of Bibs*** (#2303, $3.00). Some designs resemble pull toys.



Water Babies (#2280, $4.00) has 14 designs for showering a little one with love. Boats, fish, and ducks adorn afghans, a bath mitt, a bib, and more.



Playful bears clown around in the 6 cute designs in ***Confetti Surprise*** (#2294, $4.00). Some of these bright nursery accents would also be nice in a child's room.



Inspirational verses surround 4 precious little girls in ***Sweet Scriptures*** (#2291, $4.00). The girls' old-fashioned attire gives them timeless appeal.

Trendsetters

TILLA TREE SKIRT

By blending metallic thread throughout its new Tilla fabric, Zweigart has created a rich look that's perfect for a Christmas tree skirt. The 10 count fabric is a blend of 55% rayon, 40% cotton, and 5% metallic. It comes in three color combinations — white fabric with silver thread, white fabric with gold thread, and cream fabric with gold thread. The prefinished tree skirt is 36″ in diameter and has a 4″ deep fringe.

Design from Heirloom Tree Skirt, *Leaflet #256, by Studio Seven.*

NEW AIDA COLORS

Stitchers who enjoy working on Aida will be pleased to know that Zweigart has introduced some lovely new colors of this versatile fabric. Featuring an array of brilliant hues as well as softer colors, the new palette includes black, purple, deep royal, dark blue, teal green, bisque, khaki, Confederate grey, parchment, red, robin's egg blue, and pewter.

To obtain these products, visit your local needlecraft shop or see the Buyer's Guide that begins on this page.

How to Write to Us

• ***FOR "EDITOR'S SCRAPBOOK," "MARK YOUR CALENDAR," and "A HELPING HAND,"*** *write to* For The Love Of Cross Stitch *(please specify department), P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, AR 72215. Please include your daytime telephone number.*

• ***FOR SUBMITTING RECIPES,*** *write to "In Good Taste,"* For The Love Of Cross Stitch, *P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, AR 72215. Please send each recipe on a separate sheet of paper or card; include your name, address, and daytime telephone number. Contributors' names will accompany published recipes. We reserve the right to edit all recipes and use them in any Leisure Arts publication. Recipes will not be acknowledged or returned.*

• ***FOR SUBMITTING DESIGNS,*** *mail your submissions to* For The Love Of Cross Stitch, *Design Department, P.O. Box 5595, Little Rock, AR 72215, or deliver to 5701 Ranch Drive, Little Rock, AR 72212.*

Send a color photograph of each design labeled with your name, address, daytime telephone number, and a brief description of the design. If we are interested, you will be asked to send the actual project(s). Leisure Arts requires that each accepted design be original and not infringe on any existing copyright held by any other individual, firm, or corporation.

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Buyer's Guide

Your local needlecraft shop is always the best place to start when shopping for your cross stitch needs. However, if you cannot find an item locally and it is listed in our Buyer's Guide, you may use this order form (or call our toll-free number for Visa or MasterCard orders) to purchase it by mail from us.

Please use the blank next to each item number to indicate quantity.

• PAGE 6: Sweetheart Mug
____ #12355-29 White Crafter's Pride® Stitch-A-Mug™, $6.50

• PAGES 7-9: Beddy-Bye Blessing
____ #11053-29 Soft White Anne Cloth (18 ct), 45″ x 58″ piece, $27.50
____ #10524-29 Antique White Aida (14 ct), 15″ x 18″ piece, $4.00
Leaflets of Carol Emmer designs:
____ #2180-29 God Bless, $3.00
____ #2163-29 ABC's for Baby, $2.50
____ #881-29 Baby's First Year, $4.00
____ #878-29 Baby Dear, $2.50

• PAGES 10-11: Spring Fairy
____ #11803-29 Cream Belfast Linen (32 ct), 18″ x 27″ piece, $11.00
____ #11801-29 Pewter Lugana (25 ct), 18″ x 27″ piece, $8.25
Leaflet of Carol Bryan designs:
____ #495-29 Tender Moments, $4.50

• PAGES 12-13: Chocolate Bandit
____ #11805-29 Waste Canvas (8.5 mesh), 1 yard piece (27″ wide), $8.40

• PAGES 14-17: Romantic Towels
____ #11864-29 Ecru Park Avenue Fingertips™ Towel (14 ct), $3.20
Leaflets of Jane Chandler designs:
____ #2292-29 Beautiful Borders for Abby Cloth, $4.00
____ #2228-29 Tender Touches for Fingertips, Book 2, $3.00
____ #2148-29 Tender Touches for Fingertips, $2.50

• PAGES 18-19: Seasons of Happiness, Part 1
____ #10528-29 Light Blue Classic Reserve Aida (14 ct), 15″ x 18″ piece, $4.00
____ #31797-29 Wooden Frame with 6″ x 8″ opening, $8.50
Leaflet of Sandi Gore Evans designs:
____ #2138-29 Spring's Gift, $2.50

• PAGE 20: Royal Lace Guest Towel
____ #11791-29 Victorian Blue Royal Lace Guest Towel (14 ct), $7.00
Leaflet of Diane Brakefield designs:
____ #927-29 Bouquets for Fingertips, $2.50

• PAGE 21: The Gingerbread Man
____ #11805-29 Waste Canvas (8.5 mesh), 1 yard piece (27″ wide), $8.40

• PAGES 22-23: Noah's Ark Ensemble
____ #11829-29 Waste Canvas (11 mesh), 1 yard piece (27″ wide), $8.40
____ #11805-29 Waste Canvas (8.5 mesh), 1 yard piece (27″ wide), $8.40
Leaflets of Polly Carbonari designs:
____ #2175-29 For Each Season in Waste Canvas, $3.00
____ #2084-29 Dress Up America in Waste Canvas, $2.50

• PAGE 24: Romantic Remembrance
____ #11896-29 Antique White Belfast Linen (32 ct), 18″ x 27″ piece, $11.00

• PAGE 26: From the Bookshelf
____ #2303-29 Batch of Bibs, $3.00
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____ #2278-29 Sunflowers, $4.00
____ #2277-29 Back to Nature in Waste Canvas, $3.00

Continued on page 28

Buyer's Guide *(continued)*

• PAGE 25: Try Your Hand
____ #988-29 The Herb Garden, $2.50

• PAGE 27: Trendsetters
____ #11199-29 Gold/Cream Tilla (10 ct) Tree Skirt, $45.00
____ #11198-29 Gold/White Tilla (10 ct) Tree Skirt, $45.00
____ #11197-29 Silver/White Tilla (10 ct) Tree Skirt, $45.00
____ #100167-29 Heirloom Tree Skirt (leaflet), $4.50

• PAGE 28: A Helping Hand
____ #2072-29 Cross Stitch for Beginners, $4.00

• MISCELLANEOUS

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A Helping Hand

SANDRA CASE

We love receiving mail from all of our readers, but it is especially nice to hear from new stitchers. Their enthusiasm for their new hobby is so contagious that it recharges our batteries and makes us go looking for something to stitch. Their questions about the basics of cross stitch also serve to remind us that all beginners may not have had access to a good teacher or a good instruction leaflet.

For example, a new reader recently wrote wanting to know whether to stitch horizontally or vertically on her projects. Our answer to her was to work horizontal rows of stitches but to work down as she moves from one row to the next. A good rule to follow is this: stitch up, work down. "Stitch up" means that as you make each stitch, come up with your needle at the bottom of the stitch and go down at the top of the stitch. "Work down" means work in rows going down the stitched piece. If you follow this rule you will usually bring your needle up in an empty hole and take it down in an occupied hole. This method keeps your stitches smooth and is also an easier way to stitch.

The same reader asked if she should use several threaded needles when working on a project with a lot of different floss colors. It can be a time-saver to thread several needles at once. Then you can keep stitching without having to break your concentration. Be sure to have a way to tell what floss color is in each needle, though, because some shades are extremely close. One good way to keep them separate is to secure the needles in a slip of paper with the numbers written on it.

If several floss colors are used in a small area, you may even work with several needles at once. As you finish stitching with each color, secure the threaded needle out of the way until it is needed again. Remember that this technique only works in small areas because floss should not be carried across more than two or three fabric threads on the back of your project.

Basic questions such as these are covered in Leisure Arts Leaflet #2072, *Cross Stitch for Beginners* (see Buyer's Guide). If you are new to cross stitch or just need a handy reference guide, it contains a wealth of information.

Happy Stitching!

Mark Your Calendar

Announcements of general interest to our readers are published free as space permits. Please submit information at least six months before the scheduled event.

• **NEEDLEWORK CONVENTION** — The Sewing and Fine Needlework Guild will hold its national convention and international design competition **February 11-14** in **St. Louis, Missouri**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Traudl Armstrong, SFNG, P.O. Box 1606, Knoxville, TN 37901 or call (615) 524-5066.

• **CRAFT SHOW AND SALE** — The Cape Coral Art League will sponsor a fine arts and crafts show and sale in cooperation with the Cape Coral Winter Festival **February 27-28** at the Yacht Club Pavilion in **Cape Coral, Florida**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Nancy R. Nichols, P.O. Box 707, Cape Coral, FL 33910 or call (813) 542-8003.

• **CROSS STITCH FESTIVAL** — *Cross Stitch and Country Crafts*® magazine and Jean Farish Needleworks, Inc., will co-sponsor the 1993 Spirit of Cross-Stitch Festival **March 12-14** in **Winston-Salem, North Carolina; May 28-30** in **Saratoga Springs, New York; September 10-12** in **Des Moines, Iowa;** and **October 15-17** in **Sacramento, California.** For more information, send a business-size SASE* with 52 cents postage to Kay Engleby Chelena, Spirit of Cross-Stitch Festival, 819 S. Marshall Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101 or call (919) 724-2226.

• **COUNTED CROSS STITCH SHOW** — The fourth annual St. Charles, Missouri, Counted Cross Stitch Show will be held **March 26-28** in **St. Charles, Missouri**. For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Patches, Etc., 341 South Main Street, St. Charles, MO 63301, Attention: Show, or call (314) 946-8016.

• **QUILTER'S EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR** — The Gulf States Quilting Association will hold its tenth annual educational seminar **April 15-18** at the University of Southern Mississippi Conference Center in **Long Beach, Mississippi.** For more information, send a business-size SASE* with 58 cents postage to Marilyn Mitchell, 506 St. Rose Avenue, St. Rose, LA 70087 or call (504) 466-8414.

• **NEEDLEWORK AND QUILT SHOW** — The Salisbury Mansion will host its sixth annual needlework and quilt show **April 22-May 9** in **Worcester, Massachusetts.** For more information, send a business-size SASE* to Sharon E. Hobey, Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, MA 01609 or call (508) 753-8278.

***SASE — self-addressed stamped envelope.**

STITCH DIAGRAMS

Counted Cross Stitch (X): Work one Cross Stitch to correspond to each colored square on the chart. For horizontal rows, work stitches in two journeys (**Fig. 1**). For vertical rows, complete each stitch as shown (**Fig. 2**). When working over two fabric threads, work Cross Stitch as shown in **Fig. 3**. When the chart shows a Backstitch crossing a colored square (**Fig. 4**), a Cross Stitch should be worked first; then the Backstitch (**Fig. 8**) should be worked on top of the Cross Stitch.

Fig. 1

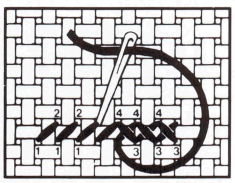


Fig. 2

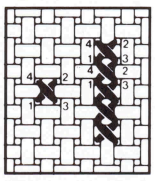
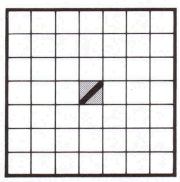


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



Quarter Stitch (¼X): Quarter Stitches are denoted by triangular shapes of color on the chart and on the color key. Come up at 1 (**Fig. 5**); then split fabric thread to go down at 2. **Fig. 6** shows the technique for Quarter Stitch when working over two fabric threads.

Fig. 5

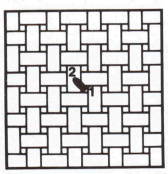
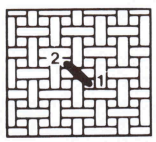
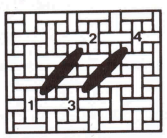


Fig. 6



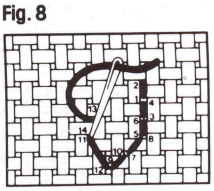
Half Cross Stitch (½X): This stitch is one journey of the Cross Stitch and is worked from lower left to upper right. **Fig. 7** shows the Half Cross Stitch worked over two fabric threads.

Fig. 7



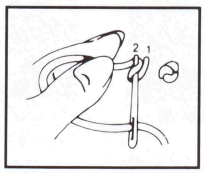
Backstitch (B'ST): For outline detail, Backstitch (shown on chart and on color key by black or colored straight lines) should be worked after the design has been completed (**Fig. 8**).

Fig. 8



French Knot: Bring needle up at 1. Wrap floss once around needle and insert needle at 2, holding end of floss with non-stitching fingers (**Fig. 9**). Tighten knot; then pull needle through fabric, holding floss until it must be released. For larger knot, use more strands; wrap only once.

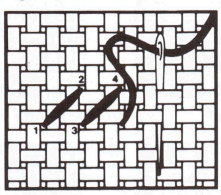
Fig. 9



STITCHING TIPS

Working Over Two Fabric Threads: Use the sewing method instead of the stab method when working over two fabric threads. To use the sewing method, keep your stitching hand on the right side of the fabric (instead of stabbing the fabric with the needle and taking your stitching hand to the back of the fabric to pick up the needle). With the sewing method, you take the needle down and up with one stroke instead of two. To add support to stitches, it is important that the first Cross Stitch is placed on the fabric with stitch 1-2 beginning and ending where a vertical fabric thread crosses over a horizontal fabric thread (**Fig. 10**). When the first stitch is in the correct position, the entire design will be placed properly, with vertical fabric threads supporting each stitch.

Fig. 10



Working On Waste Canvas: Waste canvas is a special canvas that provides an evenweave grid for placing stitches on fabric. After the design is worked over the canvas, the canvas threads are removed, leaving the design on the fabric. The canvas is available in several mesh sizes.

1. Cover edges of canvas with masking tape. For sweatshirt, cut a piece of lightweight, non-fusible interfacing the same size as canvas to provide a firm stitching base.
2. Find desired stitching area on clothing item and mark center of area with a pin.
3. Match center of canvas to pin. Use the blue threads in canvas to place canvas straight on item; pin canvas to item. For sweatshirt, pin interfacing to wrong side of item. Baste all thicknesses together as shown in **Fig. 11**.
4. Using a sharp needle, work design, stitching from large holes to large holes.
5. Trim canvas to within ¾" of design. Dampen canvas until it becomes limp. Pull out canvas threads one at a time using tweezers (**Fig. 12**). Trim interfacing close to design.

Fig. 11

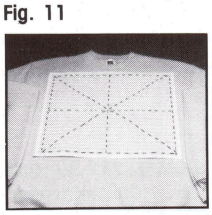
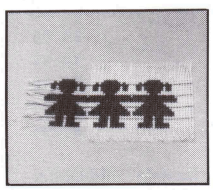


Fig. 12



FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

Pillow Finishing (shown on page 24): With design centered, trim stitched piece to measure 7" x 6". Cut one piece of fabric the same size as stitched piece for backing. For fabric and lace ruffle, cut a 53" x 5" piece of coordinating fabric and a 53" length of 2"w flat lace. Fold short ends of fabric strip ½" to wrong side and press. Fold strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together and press. Fold short ends of lace trim ½" to wrong side and press. Matching raw edges of ruffle and straight edge of lace, baste layers together close to raw edge. Gather fabric strip and lace trim to fit stitched piece. Using a ½" seam allowance, sew fabric and lace ruffle to stitched piece. Matching right sides and leaving an opening for turning, use a ½" seam allowance to sew stitched piece and backing fabric together. Trim corners diagonally. Turn pillow right side out, carefully pushing corners outward. Stuff pillow with polyester fiberfill and sew final closure by hand.

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C. Total Paid and/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	237,992	219,263
D. Free Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	822	357
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	238,814	219,620
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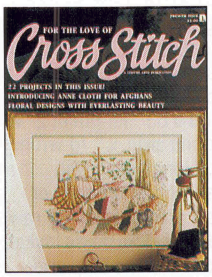
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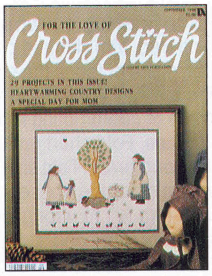
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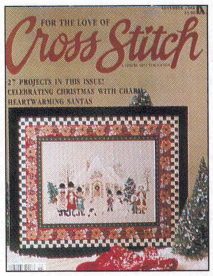
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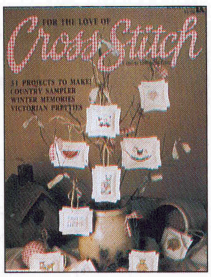
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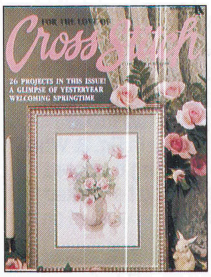
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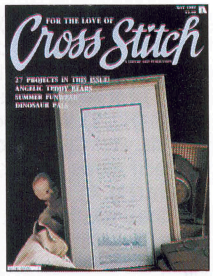
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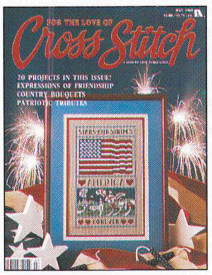
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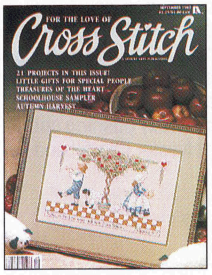
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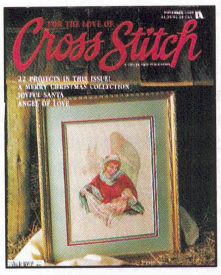
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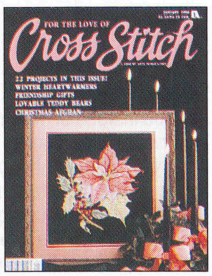
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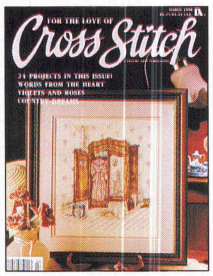
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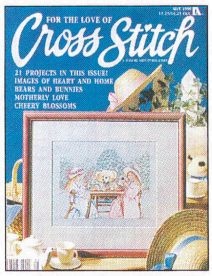
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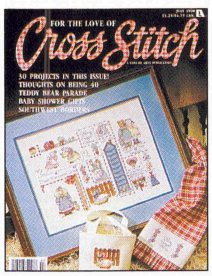
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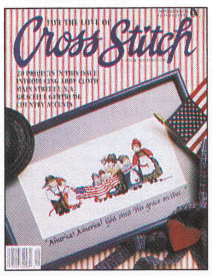
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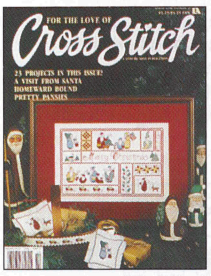
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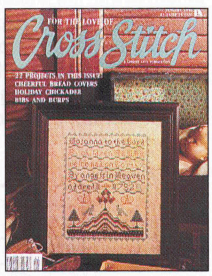
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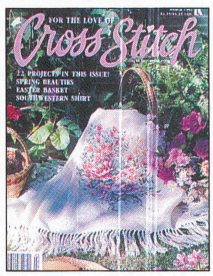
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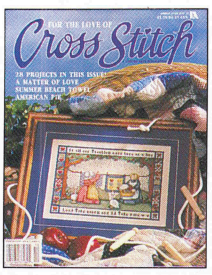
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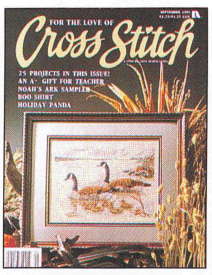
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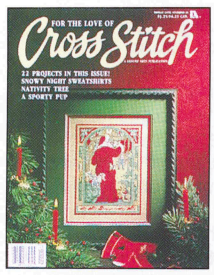
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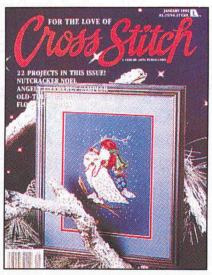
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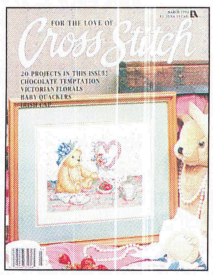
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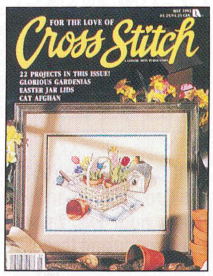
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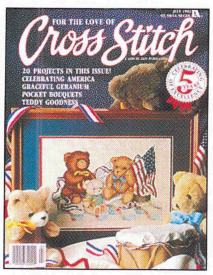
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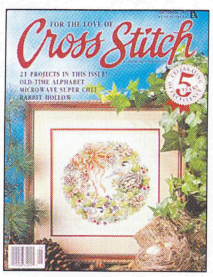
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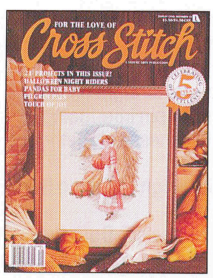
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